AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1. (original): A protective film protecting a dielectric layer of a plasma display panel from discharge, containing metallic oxide, and a volume resistivity of said protective film being $3.5 \times 10^{11} \ \Omega$ ·cm or more.
- 2. (original): The protective film according to claim 1, containing 3 hydrogen atoms or more when the number of total atoms in said protective film is defined as 100.
- 3. (original): A protective film protecting a dielectric layer of a plasma display panel from discharge, containing metallic oxide and hydrogen, the number of hydrogen atoms being 3 or more when the number of total atoms in said protective film is defined as 100.
- 4. (original): The protective film according to claim 1, wherein said metallic oxide is MgO.
- 5. (original): The protective film according to claim 3, wherein said metallic oxide is MgO.
- 6. (original): The protective film according to claim 4, wherein a peak of light emission intensity of light emitting center in 510 to 560 nm in a cathode luminescence is higher than that of light emission intensity of light emitting center in 280 to 440 nm or 680 to 760 nm.

- 7. (original): The protective film according to claim 5, wherein a peak of light emission intensity of light emitting center in 510 to 560 nm in a cathode luminescence is higher than that of light emission intensity of light emitting center in 280 to 440 nm or 680 to 760 nm.
- 8. (original): The protective film according to claim 6, wherein the number of said hydrogen atoms is at least the number of total deficits of total oxygen atoms and metal atoms.
- 9. (original): The protective film according to claim 7, wherein the number of said hydrogen atoms is at least the number of total deficits of total oxygen atoms and metal atoms.
- 10. (original): The protective film according to claim 1, wherein said protective film is formed by means of performing a heat treatment in atmosphere including hydrogen in excited or ionized state.
- 11. (original): The protective film according to claim 3, wherein said protective film is formed by means of performing a heat treatment in atmosphere including hydrogen in excited or ionized state.
- 12. (original): The protective film according to claim 1, wherein a surface roughness Ra of said protective film is 5 nm or more.
- 13. (original): The protective film according to claim 3, wherein a surface roughness Ra of said protective film is 5 nm or more.
- 14. (original): The protective film according to claim 1, wherein said protective film has (111) orientation.

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- 15. (original): The protective film according to claim 3, wherein said protective film has (111) orientation.
- 16. (withdrawn): A method of forming a protective film protecting a dielectric layer of a plasma display panel from discharge, comprising the steps of :

forming a metallic oxide film; and

performing a heat treatment of said metallic oxide film in atmosphere including hydrogen in excited or ionized state.

17. (withdrawn): A method of forming a protective film protecting a dielectric layer of a plasma display panel from discharge, comprising the step of:

forming a film containing a metallic oxide while performing a heat treatment in atmosphere including hydrogen in excited or ionized state.

- 18. (original): A plasma display panel, comprising
- a protective film according to claim 1.
- 19. (original): A plasma display panel, comprising
- a protective film according to claim 3.
- 20. (withdrawn): A method of manufacturing a plasma display panel, comprising the step of:

forming a protective film by the method according to claim 16.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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21. (withdrawn): A method of manufacturing a plasma display panel, comprising the step of:

forming a protective film by the method according to claim 17.